

Case 2450

Proposed conservation of four sipunculan specific names

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the established sipunculan worm names *Siphonosoma vastum*, *Phascolosoma stephensoni*, *Phascolosoma scolops* and *Phascolosoma pacificum*. Examination of the type specimens of sipunculan species described by A. De Quatrefages in 1865 has shown that his unused names are senior subjective synonyms of the above.

1. For many years zoologists have used the specific names given below as the valid names for four distinctive species of sipunculans:

(a) *Sipunculus vastus* Selenka, De Man and Bülow, 1884, (pp. 103–104). It was later transferred to the genus *Siphonosoma* Spengel, 1912 and is accordingly now known as *Siphonosoma vastum*;

(b) *Physcosoma stephensoni* Stephen, 1942 (p. 250) was later transferred to the genus *Phascolosoma* Leuckart, 1828 and is now known as *Phascolosoma stephensoni*;

(c) *Phymosoma scolops* Selenka, De Man and Bülow, 1884, (pp. 75–76), now known as *Phascolosoma scolops*;

(d) *Phascolosoma pacificum* Keferstein, 1866 (pp. 221–222).

2. However, a re-investigation (Saiz Salinas, 1984) of certain poorly known species of sipunculans described by De Quatrefages in 1865, whose old type specimens were found in the collections of the Worms Laboratory in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, reveals that:

(a) *Sipunculus (Phascolosomum) violaceus* De Quatrefages, 1865 (p. 619) is a senior synonym of *Siphonosoma vastum*;

(b) *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) spinicauda* De Quatrefages, 1865 (p. 621) is a senior synonym of *Phascolosoma stephensoni*;

(c) *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) guttatus* De Quatrefages, 1865 (p. 621) is a senior synonym of *Phymosoma scolops*;

(d) a part of the syntype material of *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) javanensis* De Quatrefages, 1865 (p. 622) is a senior synonym of *P. pacificum* (another part is a junior synonym of *Phascolosoma noduliferum* Stimpson, 1855, and the remaining part is considered unidentifiable).

3. The usages of the senior synonyms are as follows:

(a) The name *violaceus* was used as valid by Baird (1868, p. 85). It was used by Hérubel (1907, p. 226) with a question mark and also by Stephen & Edmonds (1972, p. 339) as a name of a species *incertae sedis*.

(b) The name *spinicauda* was used as valid by Baird (1868, p. 93) and De Rochebrune (1881, p. 230), and as a junior synonym of *Phascolosoma granulatum* Leuckart, 1828 by Stephen & Edmonds in 1972 (p. 306);

(c) The name *guttatus* was used as valid by Baird (1868, p. 93) and as a name of a species *incertae sedis* by Stephen & Edmonds (1972, p. 339);

(d) The name *javanensis* was used as valid by Baird (1868, p. 94) and as a name of a species *incertae sedis* by Stephen & Edmonds (1972, p. 339).

4. The four specific names given in Paragraph 1, *S. vastum*, *P. stephensoni*, *P. scolops*, and *P. pacificum*, have been used in the past 50 years by many authors. The usages before 1972 can be consulted in the Stephen & Edmonds' monograph. A list of between 8–12 subsequent publications for each of the specific names has been given to the Commission Secretariat.

5. It can be stated without reservation that the four De Quatrefages specific names *violaceus*, *spinicauda*, *guttatus* and *javanensis* given in Paragraph 2 above have not been used as valid names during the past 50 years.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the following specific names for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy:

(a) *violaceus* De Quatrefages, 1865 as published in the binomen *Sipunculus (Phascolosomum) violaceus*;

(b) *spinicauda* De Quatrefages, 1865 as published in the binomen *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) spinicauda*;

(c) *guttatus* De Quatrefages, 1865 as published in the binomen *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) guttatus*;

(d) *javanensis* De Quatrefages, 1865 as published in the binomen *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) javanensis*.

(2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:

(a) *vastus* Selenka, De Man & Bülow, 1884, as published in the binomen *Sipunculus vastus*;

(b) *stephensoni* Stephen, 1942, as published in the binomen *Physcosoma stephensoni*;

(c) *scolops* Selenka, De Man & Bülow, 1884, as published in the binomen *Phymosoma scolops*;

(d) *pacificum* Keferstein, 1866, as published in the binomen *Phascolosoma pacificum*.

(3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the following names:

(a) *violaceus* De Quatrefages, 1865 as published in the binomen *Sipunculus (Phascolosomum) violaceus* and as suppressed in (1)(a) above;

(b) *spinicauda* De Quatrefages, 1865 as published in the binomen *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) spinicauda* and as suppressed in (1)(b) above;

(c) *guttatus* De Quatrefages, 1865 as published in the binomen *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) guttatus* and as suppressed in (1)(c) above;

(d) *javanensis* De Quatrefages, 1865 as published in the binomen *Sipunculus (Phymosomum) javanensis* and as suppressed in (1)(d) above.

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